

AMERICAN

BROADCASTING

COMPANY

B-CPRO-7-8-45

SKY KING - EP #1

PROGRAM TITLE

DERBY FOODS

ADVERTISER

NEEDHAM-LOUIS & BROOKLYN

AGENCY

WRITER

MONDAY - OCTOBER 28, 1946

DAY & DATE

4:15 - 4:30 P.M. CST.

TIME

*Kou wmsn
10-28-'46*

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS

SKY KING

Red Robbins

Stub Weaver

Captain Forbes

Clipper King

Penny King

Jim Bell

Martha Bell

CAST

SOUND

Throbbing engines

Footsteps

Scuffling feet

Slap of salutes

Shuffling feet

Rain against windows

Gusts of wind

Neighing of horses

Stamping of hoofs

Snorting of horse

Heavy thud on ground

Drone of plane

Dive of plane

REMARKS

Orchestra Leader

Announcer

Production Director

Agency Producer or Announcer

10/28

OPEN

THEME

WE

RECORDED

17

ANNOUNCER: ~~Presented by the makers of Peter Pan Peanut Butter.~~

ANNOUNCER: Today we begin a new, thrill-packed story. It's the story of Schuyler King -- known as "Sky" King -- war hero, adventurer, crack flyer, whose exciting adventures will take you from his Flying Crown Ranch in the West to the far corners of the earth. Today we introduce, too, another important person. You've seen her on the Peter Pan Peanut Butter jar. It's PETER PAN herself, in her bright green dress, looking as if she'd just stepped right off the jar. Here's Peter Pan!

PETER PAN: Hi, everybody!

ANNOUNCER: Peter Pan, how about telling our friends what a wonderful treat's in store for them when they try Peter Pan Peanut Butter?

PETER PAN: It's a grand treat, all right, 'cause Peter Pan Peanut Butter is the best tasting ever -- full of rich, fresh-roasted peanut flavor. But that's not all. Peter Pan is the smoothest peanut butter made -- spreads on bread like magic, and it never sticks to the roof of your mouth. The oil never separates -- it never needs stirring. Besides, it's chock full of energy-fuel that gives you lots of pep and stamina for fun and adventure.

more

ANNOUNCER: Golly, Peter Pan -- you'll have to tell us more about that wonderful Peter Pan Peanut Butter later! And all you fellows and girls will want to try some soon. Why not ask Mom to get some Peter Pan Peanut Butter right away -- it's America's favorite! And now  The Adventures of Sky King!

Thunder?

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SKY KING

Episode No. 1.

LEAD IN: ~~Our story begins~~ ^{On} on the white-capped surface of the Pacific Ocean, several hundred miles off the California coast. Part of the United States Pacific fleet has gathered for secret maneuvers. All morning there has been a dark, drifting overcast. ¹⁴⁵ In the center of the gray battlecraft are three gigantic aircraft carriers---their flying decks wet and slippery from gusts of rain. But despite such forbidding weather flying tests have been underway since daybreak. It is now late forenoon and the bad weather is closing in tighter. Below the mammoth flying deck of one of the flattops---in a comfortable corner of the pilot's ready room---three men are gathered at ease, their flying regalia strewn about them. ² They are Commander Sky King, skipper of the 97th fighter squadron and his two ace pilots, Stub Weaver and Red Robbins. Stub has the floor, enthusiastic as usual. Listen---

SOUND: FAINT THROBBING ENGINES

STUB: (EAGERLY) That sure stops my prop! I knew those jets ²¹⁵ would take off from a tennis court but I thought settin' 'em down on a flying deck was ix-nay!

RED: I thought so too. Why---they land hotter than a machine gun in the Sahara! ^{How about that, Sky?} ²³⁰

SKY: It's the new arresting gear, my friends! Leave it to the Navy engineers. They can dope anything out once they get steamed up!

230

1 STUB: I'll say they can! (BURST OF ENTHUSIASM) We're going places---
2 I tell you. Our air service'll stop any world war before it
3 starts! Pretty soon we'll be flying from mother rocket
4 planes.
5 RED: (SOBERLY) You're off the beam, chum. Haven't you forgotten
6 something?
7 STUB: What?
8 RED: All three of us have applications in for release. Any day now
9 we'll be out of the Navy. Comes the new aviation era and
10 we won't be having some!
11 SKY: *245* I wouldn't be so sure of that, Red. The Navy keeps a
12 *Smile* pretty sharp eye on its boys. *3* If trouble started we'd
13 be back in a jiffy.
14 STUB: Anyway---I'm fed up with all this super excitement. I
15 wouldn't care if I didn't see a plane or a flying deck for
16 a year! You know what I want?
17 RED: (JEERINGLY) Yeah---a chicken ranch.
18 STUB: (JEERINGLY) And you want to run a dude ranch. *3*
19 SKY: (SOBERLY) And you boys know what I want. I'm getting back *315*
20 to the Flying Crown ranch as quick as I can! I'm going to do
21 a lot of trout fishing - and get on a horse and ride for
22 miles through those mountains. And---incidentally---in my
23 spare time raise enough beef to solve the meat shortage. *315*
24 STUB: (EAGERLY) I've got a brilliant idea fellows. You run your
25 dude ranch, Red, and Sky and I'll supply you with chickens
and beef.

1 RED: (EAGERLY) Now you're on the beam Stub! What do you say, Sky?

2 SKY: (LAUGHING) It'll take a lot of dudes on that ranch to eat all
3 the beef I'm going to raise.

4 RED: (LAUGHING) That'll be easy. I'll do a little advertising. 330
5 "Beef three times a day."

6 BUSINESS: GENERAL LAUGHTER

7 STUB: (AFTER SLIGHT PAUSE: SOBERLY) You know---we're going to miss
8 this life at that. It sort of gets under your skin---never a
9 dull moment. And now that we're getting into jets/rockets
10 there'll be more action than ever. (EAGERLY) Why it was just
11 yesterday Forbes was telling me about an island in the central
12 Pacific where some Nips are still hiding out. It must have
13 been by-passed during the war. And they think there's a
14 landing field on it, too.

15 RED: Yeah---Seems like there's been a little traffic over that
16 island. And they aren't our planes, either.

17 STUB: (EAGERLY) Just think of it, Sky! We might be ordered out
18 that way to do some investigatin'. Maybe you can file a couple
19 more notches on your stick.

20 SKY: (LAUGHING) Come out of that spin, Stub. 345 The war's over in
21 case you don't know it. And anyway---that sort of stuff
22 leaves me cold! My nephew and niece, Clipper and Penny, are
23 waitin for me at the Flying Crown. 415 We've got the most
24 comfortable ranch house in the Rockies.

25 (CONT)

1 SKY: There's a swell porch where you can lie in the sun and Jim
(CONT)
2 Bell's the best foreman any ranch ever had. What's more---his
3 wife Martha is tops in the galley. How can you beat that
4 for a lay-out?

5 RED: (WISTFULLY) ⁴³⁰ It listens good----all right. I hope I can
6 rig up my ranch like that! But what about flying? No
7 matter what you guys say---it gets in the blood.

8 SKY: I already ⁴¹⁵ have a flying field with two runways. What's
9 more---a hangar with four planes. Clipper and Penny started
10 to fly six months ago. One of my men, Bill Dawson is teaching
11 them. He was in the war early and got hurt---but not bad
12 enough to keep him from flying.

13 STUB: Can you imagine the guy, Red---he has his cake and he eats
14 it, too!

15 RED: ^{Risser} Ta'int right---I tell you! (KIDDING) I thought you were
16 through with flying, Sky. ⁵

17 SKY: (SOBERLY) I am, Red---at least the kind where you fly
18 zero-zero and carry machine guns. From now on its strictly
19 for fun!

20 SOUND: SHARP APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS

21 STUB: (HEAD TURNED: SHARPLY) Front and center---here comes the
22 old man.

23 SOUND: STEPS LOUD: HALT SCUFFLING FEET: SLAP OF SALUTES

24 FORBES: (HEAVY, CRISP VOICE) At ease men. ⁵¹⁵ I'm certainly glad I
25 found the three best pilots on this carrier together. I'm
liable to need someone for a bit of hot flying.

1 RED: You came to the right place, Captain Forbes. What's up?

2 FORBES: You won't be crazy about it when I tell you. (LOWERING
3 VOICE) This isn't any routine flying---I can tell you
4 that. In fact---(SLIGHT PAUSE) I wouldn't send any man
5 out on the kind of job that may be coming up. I'm going
6 to ask for a volunt-----

7 SKY: (SHARPLY: HARD) I'm your man, Sir!

8 STUB: (LAUGHING: LOW) And I thought you didn't want any more
9 excitement!

10 FORBES: (SHARPLY) I'm glad you volunteered, King. You're the most
11 experienced flying officer on this Carrier. If this thing
12 goes through you'll fly one of the new two-place jets. I
13 don't know yet who will go with---

14 RED: (SHARPLY) Yes, you do, Sir! I'm going.

15 STUB: (LOW: PEEVED) You louse! You hat me to it!

16 FORBES: (SHARPLY) Very well, Lieutenant Robbins, you'll go with
17 Commander King.

18 SKY: (SHARPLY) What's this all about?

19 FORBES: (SHARPLY) Come with me to operations and I'll tell you.

20 *Forbes* (FADING) You'd better come along too, Lieutenant Weaver.

21 If we need a second plane you'll fly it.

22 SOUND: SHUFFLING FEET: BOARD FADE

23 BUSINESS: BRIEF TIME LAPSE

24 SOUND: LOUDER THROBBING ENGINES: RAIN AGAINST WINDOWS: GUST OF WIND.

25 *we*

up

Changes

FORBES: (FADING IN: SHARPLY) ^{on} All right---please gather around this chart.

SKY: ^{force in} Yes, Sir.

RED: Okay, Sir.

STUB: Right you are, Sir!

~~BUSINESS: ALL HEADS TURNED SLIGHTLY FROM MIKE~~

FORBES: Now here is our present location. Slightly southwest of us---but a considerable distance away---is this group of islands. You may have heard rumors to the effect there has been some mysterious flying from one of those islands.

SKY: ^{Touch off} Yes, Sir. We were talking about that when you found us.

FORBES: When we are finished with our present experiments we will investigate that island. ¹³⁰ (WORRIED) However---we may be too late.

SKY: ^{on} (SHARPLY) What do you mean by that, Sir?

FORBES: We have a destroyer on patrol east of that island. We just received a radio message from her skipper saying that several planes have been seen and heard in the area the past few hours.

RED: What do you make of that, Sir?

FORBES: Whoever's on that island knows we will investigate it sooner or later. They may be getting ready to vacate.

STUB: Where would they go, Sir?

FORBES: That's for us to find out. (SHARPLY) If any planes leave that island to fly elsewhere we must know where they land.

SKY: What kind of planes are they?

FORBES: Several were conventional types but one was evidently a large jet plane capable of very high speed.

630

1 RED: Oh---oh! That doesn't sound so good!

2 FORBES: No---it doesn't. So we must be on alert! The island is
3 being patrolled on all sides. If any plane leaves and
4 doesn't return we'll at least know the course it started
5 on. If it comes in this direction---but I guess you see
6 the whole picture now!

7 SKY: Yes, Sir---we do. (EAGERLY) But our new radarscope should
8 be able to pick it up a long distance away.

9 FORBES: Right! So you and Lieutenant Robbins be ready for a quick
10 take-off (FADING) That's all for the moment.

11 SOUND: BOARD FADE

12 NARRATOR: ~~And now---our scene changes,~~ ^{meanwhile} Many, many miles away---- in
13 a remote upland valley in the Rocky Mountains---lie the
14 sprawling outbuildings and main house of the Flying Crown
15 ranch. Several hundred yards away is a small hangar near
16 the end of one of the runways. Not far from the hangar is
17 a stoutly fenced corral. Sitting on the top rail of the
18 corral---watching a wild and frisky colt---are a man and
19 a boy. The man---a wizened, sunbured person of indeterminate
20 age wearing a large sombrero---is Jim Bell, foreman of the
21 Flying Crown. The boy--bare headed--with rebellious brown
22 hair and laughing eyes which are momentarily sober--is Sky
23 King's nephew, Clipper King. Listen, as Jim Bell exclaims--

24 SOUND: OCCASIONAL NEIGHING, STAMPING OF HOOFES.

25 JIM: (WESTERN ACCENT, MANNER OF SPEECH) Come on, Clipper! Don't
let it get you down. ⁶¹⁵ Bill ain't gonna keep you on the
ground forever.

1 CLIPPER: But I don't want to be grounded. (TURNING HEAD) Look at
2 Penny in front of the hanger. She's polishing the
3 instrument panel on the new Songbird. In ten minutes she'll
4 be up a thousand feet doing wing-overs and figure eights.

5 JIM: Maybe you will be tomorrow, son. Just show Bill you can
6 take it. 830

7 CLIPPER: Okay, Jim, I'll try. But when you come right down to it---
8 I shouldn't have been grounded at all.

9 JIM: You was hedge-hoppin'---wasn't you?

10 CLIPPER: I wasn't exactly hedge-hopping.

11 JIM: But you was flyin' low---wasn't you?

12 CLIPPER: (HESITATING) Well---I guess you would call it flying low. 815

13 JIM: Well, son, you remember what Sky said the last time he was
14 here. Bill's just carryin' out his orders.

15 CLIPPER: But there was a good reason---I tell you! I saw something
16 moving near the Black Castle in Skeleton Valley and I flew
17 down to take a look.

18 JIM: If you fly down to take a look at every critter that moves
19 around these parts you'll be flyin' low all the time. 830

20 CLIPPER: But I'm sure it wasn't a n animal, Jim. I'm certain it was
21 a man.

22 JIM: (LAUGHING UPROARIOUSLY) Come on now, Clipper, you ain't
23 gonna try to spin that kind of a yarn to old Jim Bell---are
24 you? Why---there ain't been a man in Skeleton Valley since
25 that crazy Englishman took outa there fifteen years ago!
And you know as well as I do no one's goin' in there,
either---not after what happened. 855 9-5

1 CLIPPER: I know, Jim, I've heard you tell about the disease that wiped
2 out his herd. But that isn't any reason for the place to be
3 jinxed like everybody says it is. //

4 JIM: (SOBERLY) There's a curse on the place, I tell you, Clipper. //
5 I wouldn't go down ther for all the money in the world. And
6 no one else would---leastwise not in his right senses.

7 CLIPPER: (DUBIOUSLY) But I'm still sure I saw a man run into those
8 trees near the Black Castle. (EAGERLY) I'm going to make
9 a landing in Skeleton Valley sometime and look around.

10 JIM: (SHARPLY) If you take my advice---you'll keep outa there.
11 (TURNING HEAD) How about havin' a little fun? There there
12 colt outa your uncle's best stallion has gotta be broke.
13 I've given him a coupla rounds already. How about you
14 takin' a try?

15 *low* CLIPPER: Do you think I can stay on? (10)

16 JIM: (LAUGHING) You might stay on ten seconds---maybe fifteen.
17 I'll get 'im for you.

18 MARTHA: (SLIGHTLY BACK FROM MIKE: SHRILLY) You'll do no such thing,
19 Jime Bell! You oughta be ashamed of yourself---trying' to
20 get the Clipper to ride that colt! He'll break his neck
21 sure!

22 JIM: *ride in* Now---now, Marty! Don't be atalkin' like that! (10/5) The Clipper's
23 rode plenty of bad ones before! And anyway---he's got a
24 neck like a bull---hard to break. (950)

25

*NO
Laughing*

1 MARTHA: (APPROACHING MIKE) Don't you do it, Clipper! You stay
2 away from that colt! He's the worst we ever had!

3 PENNY: (APPROACHING MIKE) What's all the excitement?

4 JIM: The Clipper's gonna ride this here colt.

5 MARTHA: He's gonna do no such thing. You shouldn't put such ideas
6 into his head, Jim. 1030

7 PENNY: (LAUGHING) Putting such an idea into his head won't do
8 any good because Clipper wouldn't dare ride him!

9 CLIPPER: What's that? Where do you get that "I wouldn't-dare-
10 stuff?" Bring the colt over, Jim. I'll stay on for
11 twenty seconds.

12 JIM: (FADING) That's the way to talk! I'll have the ding-busted
13 critter here in a jiffy.

14 MARTHA: (PROTESTING) I'm a'tellin' you not to do it, Clipper.
15 Jim ain't got no right to ask you to ride him. I'll bet
16 Mr. King wouldn't like it if he was here.

17 PENNY: (LAUGHING) He'd just love it, Martha. 11

18 CLIPPER: (DISGUSTED) To listen to you, Martha, anyone would think
19 I was a baby. I can ride and I can fly. And---

20 PENNY: When you aren't grounded.

21 SOUND: FURIOUS NEIGHING, STAMPING OF HOOFES APPROACHING MIKE

22 CLIPPER: You would have to bring that up!

23 PENNY: I'm going to take the new Songbird up and practice an new
24 stunt I worked out. It'll really open your eyes.

25 JIM: (APPROACHING MIKE: PUFFING) Here you are, Clipper. Climb
on him quick. I can't hold him very long.

1 MARTHA: (SHRILLY) Don't you do it, Clipper. Don't get on that one!

2 PENNY: (LAUGHING) You were just boasting how you can ride, Clipper.
3 Let's see you do your stuff!

4 CLIPPER: (RECEEDING SLIGHTLY) I'll show you! Be sure to stay here
5 and watch.

6 PENNY: (LAUGHING) I wouldn't miss it for the world!

7 MARTHA: I'm runnin' to the house for the first aid kit.

8 CLIPPER: (SLIGHTLY BACK FROM MIKE:) You won't need it, Martha.

9 SOUND: FURIOUS NEIGHING, SNORTING, STAMPING OF HOOFS.

10 JIM: (BACK FROM MIKE: PUFFING) Quick, Clipper! Quick! I
11 can't hold him any longer!

12 CLIPPER: (BACK FROM MIKE: SHARPLY) I'm ready! Let go!

13 SOUND: FURIOUS SNORTING, NEIGHING: THUD OF HOOFS OVER DIALOGUE.

14 MARTHA: ^{W2} (SHRILLY) Dive off, Clipper! You'll get killed!

15 PENNY: (LAUGHING) Stay on, Clipper! Stay on! Yipee! Yipee!

16 JIM: (APPROAXHING MIKE: PUFFING) Clipper aint' gonna last five
17 seconds! That ¹¹¹⁵ there colt's fulla the old nick! He ain't
18 ever gonna get broken. ¹¹⁴⁵

19 PENNY: (LAUGHING) Clipper can't say a word.

20 JIM: I'll say he can't! He's a lot busier than when he was
21 hedgehoppin'!

22 MARTHA: You two oughta be ashamed of yourselves.

23 JIM: (LOUD) Look out, Clippers! Hold on!

24 MARTHA: (SHRILLY) The Clippers been thrown! He'll land clear
25 outa the corral!

SOUND: HEAVY THUD ON GROUD: SNORTING, NEIGHING, HOOF BEATS RECEDE
TO AS PREVIOUSLY.

1 MARTHA: (FADING) ¹⁴ I'm goin' for the first aid kit.

2 JIM: (ANXIOUSLY) You ain't hurt----are you, Clipper! ^{11.40}

3 CLIPPER: (APPROACHING MIKE: CHOKING: SPUTTERING) No---I'm not
4 hurt. But I never was thrown as far as that before.

5 PENNY: (LAUGHING) You're super, Clipper! You landed all in one
6 piece.

7 JIM: (LAUGHING) Doggoned if this ain't one for the book! This
8 is the second time today you been grounded, Clipper!

9 SOUND: FADE IN DRONE OF PLANE

10 PENNY: (LAUGHING) You almost did a loop when the colt threw you,
11 Clipper. Why don't you and Jim come over to the hangar
12 and watch me take up the Songbird? ¹² I'll show you a couple
13 of real loops and then---(STOPS SUDDENLY) Hey, Listen!

14 SOUND: DRONE OF ENGINE LOUDER

15 CLIPPER: (AFTER SLIGHT PAUSE: SHARPLY) What is it? ^{12.30}

16 PENNY: (HEAD TURNED) There's a plane in the sky but I can't see it.

17 CLIPPER: I don't even hear it.

18 ~~JIM: You won't for a while after the way you hit the ground!~~

19 PENNY: (EXCITED) There it is!

20 CLIPPER: Where?

21 PENNY: To the left of that white cloud---almost directly above.

22 JIM: (RUEFULLY) I sure don't see it! But my eyes aint' what
23 they used to be!

24 CLIPPER: (EXCITED) I see it! (EAGERLY) I wonder if it's Sky!

25 PENNY: I don't think so. He wouldn't have any reason to fly that
high.

JIM: How high is the durned plane?

CLIPPER: Seven or eight thousand anyway. It's too high to tell what kind it is.

PENNY: It's a single engine plane, anyway.

SOUND: BEGIN DIVE.

CLIPPER: The plane's diving!

JIM: (EXCITED) Gallopin' ghosts! I see it! And what's that stuff comin' outa its tail? ¹²³⁵ ¹³

CLIPPER: (GREATLY EXCITED) It's a sky writing plane!

JIM: (EXCITED) You mean that doggoned plane's gonna write somepin' in the sky?

PENNY: Yes---you watch.

SOUND: ^{IN} ~~DECREASE~~ ENGINE ROAR.

CLIPPER: The plane's made a complete circle. And the pilot's cut his vapor.

PENNY: He's turning and climbing above the circle.

SOUND: INCREASE ENGINE ROAR

JIM: (EXCITED) There comes that durned smoke outa the tail again! ¹³¹¹

CLIPPER: The pilot's making a line through the circle.

PENNY: It's--it's some kind of a sign, Clipper!

CLIPPER: (GREATLY EXCITED) That's it! A secret sign! But What does it mean! And who is it for?

SOUND: BOARD FADE.

LEAD OUT: Well! Are Clipper and Penny right? Has the pilot of this strange plane actually made a mysterious sign in the sky?
(M)RE

AFTER
Commercial

1 NARRATOR: If so---who can the sign be for? Meanwhile---what is
(CONT)
2 happening to Sky King and his companions on the aircraft
3 carrier? Be sure to join us tomorrow--- same time, same
4 station----as we continue the thrilling adventures of Sky
5 King!

Sound:

rec'd theme

1430

1450

25

30 cut